

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/26/2021 9:56:24 PM

First name: Connie

Last name: Giles

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a resident in San Miguel County at Trout Lake near Lizard Head Pass. My choice of where to live was based upon the scenic beauty and recreational opportunities available to us in this part of the San Juans.

My friends and I hike, ski tour, bike and generally wander off trail in this area almost daily - to experience the solitude, the unspoiled landscape, the wildlife and forest / meadow vegetation in all seasons. We sample the spring chives and summer wild strawberries and raspberries. We are especially thrilled when we get to see a lynx, beaver or the occasional moose visitor. We hope that the character of this place will be available to our children and those who come here to visit and live long after we are gone.

Although the Forest Service's "Alternative D" seems to go farthest in prioritizing conservation of this area , it still falls short of what it will take to preserve the character of this place in the future.

I would request that you:

- increase the acreage of areas recommended for wilderness or similar level of protection
  - reduce the acreage recommended as suitable for commercial timber operations in favor of a forest management plan that prioritizes forest health over commercial operations.
- and
- focus on minimizing or reducing non-motorized forms of recreation that have less impact on the existing landscape than motorized travel.

Thank you for your work in developing a plan and for this opportunity to comment.